

of the body away from ready access to antibodies. Immunological defenses are much less effective in large tumors, as antibodies cannot reach the inner malignant cells. Therefore, immunological defense in cancer (immunosurveillance) is much more effective in the beginning stages of cancer or after most of the tumor mass has been removed by surgery, radiation or chemotherapy. Unfortunately, the latter two modes of therapy may cause a pronounced reduction in the patient's immune capacity.

The human body is probably faced with numerous neoplastic mutations, but rarely develops clinical cancer. The successful operation of the nonspecific and specific immune system is probably largely responsible for this level of protection.

Research in this area has produced a number of recent advances in our understanding of cancer immunology. It is anticipated that this new knowledge will add to and modify the information in this epitome.

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Indoor Air Pollution: Effects on the Non-Smoker of Tobacco Smoke Indoors

Smoke from an idling cigarette, "sidestream smoke," contains almost twice the tar and nicotine as does smoke inhaled while puffing on a cigarette, "mainstream smoke."

Furthermore, the carbon monoxide in the air near a smoker can be increased from an atmosphere value of perhaps one to three parts per million (ppm) to transient peaks exceeding 90 ppm. Two other components of any tobacco smoke are hydrogen cyanide and nitrogen dioxide. The latter, an acutely irritating gas, exists in cigarette smoke in amounts 160 times greater than levels considered safe for extended exposure.

Thus, the tobacco smoking minority of our population is the source of a unique and hazardous form of indoor air pollution which can best be discussed by using such special terms as *sidestream*, *mainstream* and *passive* smoking. Tobacco smokers who smoke indoors clearly put upon their more numerous non-smoking colleagues by

worsening allergic rhinitis, bronchitis, asthma and other respiratory diseases.

Passive smoking by the non-smoker in a poorly ventilated room or car has been shown to result in carboxyhemoglobin levels well within the range known to cause impairment of visual acuity and faulty time interval discrimination. It is possible that such levels could be lethal for the bystander who suffers from arteriosclerotic heart disease. It is no cause for wonder, then, that the Surgeon General of the United States has declared a Bill of Rights for the non-smoker.

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Coexistence of Asthma in Children with Cystic Fibrosis

A CHILD with such recurrent, chronic symptoms as cough at rest or exertion, wheezing, fever, dyspnea or nasal obstruction may well have asthma, cystic fibrosis or both. This similarity of symptoms is a reflection of similar responses to the pathophysiology involved in both diseases.

It is well known that bronchial obstruction in patients with asthma is due to bronchoconstriction, submucosal edema, and increased bronchial secretions, and that patients with cystic fibrosis have highly viscid secretions. What is usually not appreciated is that nearly 50 percent of children with cystic fibrosis have exercise-induced bronchoconstriction and that a significant number have improved pulmonary function after inhalation of the bronchodilators epinephrine and isoproterenol. Therefore, bronchoconstriction as well as abnormal bronchial secretions, play a role in the clinical symptoms of both asthma and cystic fibrosis.

Asthma has been reported to occur in 7 to 10 percent of children with cystic fibrosis. This is similar to the incidence of asthma in the pediatric population in the United States. Therefore, it is important to realize that in some patients, both cystic fibrosis and allergy may be causing the symptoms and that treatment for both is necessary.

Recently, Caplin et al found interesting similarities between aspirin-induced asthma and cystic